

Appl. No. 09/858,043

Reply to Office Action of September 8, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A content delivering method for transmitting a content file from a server to a user terminal unit through a network and for causing the user terminal unit to stream-reproduce the content file, the method comprising the steps of:

designating a non-skip area that represents an important portion to the content file, wherein the non-skip area cannot be designated by a user;

transmitting information ~~from~~ of the non-skip area from the server to the user terminal unit along with the content file;

causing the user terminal unit to determine whether or not the non-skip area has been skipped and when the non-skip area has been skipped, transmitting information indicating that the non-skip area has been skipped to the server; and

causing the server to transmit information corresponding to the non-skip area to the user terminal unit by another transmitting means when the server receives the information indicating that the non-skip area has been skipped.

Claim 2 (original): The content delivering method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said the other transmitting means is electronic mail.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A content delivering method for transmitting a content file from a server to a user terminal unit through a network and for causing the user terminal unit to stream-reproduce the content file, the method comprising the steps of:

designating a non-skip area that represents an important portion to the content file, wherein the non-skip area cannot be designated by a user;

storing information associated with the non-skip area in a database;

transmitting information ~~from~~ of the non-skip area from the server to the user terminal unit along with the content file;

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causing the user terminal unit to determine whether or not the non-skip area has been skipped and when the non-skip area has been skipped, transmitting information indicating that the non-skip area has been skipped to the server; and

causing the server to transmit the information associated with the non-skip area from the database to the user terminal unit by another transmitting means when the server receives the information indicating that the non-skip area has been skipped.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The content delivering method of claim 3, wherein the other transmitting means is electronic mail.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The content delivering method of claim 3, wherein the information associated with the non-skip area indicating that the non-skip area has been skipped includes at least one of: user information, file I.D., non-skip area data and content creator information.

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